MARKED VERSIONS SHOWING CHANGES

In the Claims:

Claims 21-31 have been added.

Please amend Claims 1, 8, 17, and 18 as shown:

1. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for protecting a circuit from a transient event, comprising:

a signal transfer circuit arranged to receive a supply signal and output a first signal during normal operation to a pin of the circuit and to a charge storage circuit, wherein the circuit is powered by the first signal during normal operation,

the charge storage circuit arranged to receive the first signal during normal operation and output a second signal to provide power during the transient event to the pin of the circuit, the charge storage circuit storing enough charge to provide the second signal during the transient event, wherein the circuit is powered by the second signal during the transient event.

8. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for protecting a circuit from a transient event, comprising:

a signal transfer circuit arranged to receive a supply signal and output a first signal that powers the circuit during normal operation;

a charge storage circuit arranged to receive a bias signal and the first signal, the charge storage circuit providing a second signal that [provides] powers the circuit during the transient event; and

an inverting circuit arranged to receive the first signal, the second signal, and the bias signal, the inverting circuit coupled to a pin of the circuit, the inverting circuit arranged to hold the pin of the circuit high during a startup of the circuit, and low during the transient event and during normal operation.

17. (Twice Amended) A method for rejecting a transient event from a circuit, comprising:

receiving a supply signal;

monitoring the supply signal for the transient event;

determining when the circuit is in normal operation, and when the transient event is occurring:

providing a first signal to power the circuit from a signal transfer circuit to a pin of the circuit when it is determined that the circuit is in normal operation, and

providing a second signal to power the circuit from a charge storage circuit that provides power to the pin of the circuit when it is determined that the transient event is occurring.

18. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for protecting a pin of a circuit during a transient event, comprising:

a means for receiving a supply signal;

a means for monitoring the supply signal to determine the transient event;

a means for determining when the circuit is in normal operation and when the transient event is occurring:

a means for providing a first signal to power the circuit from a signal transfer circuit to a pin of the circuit when it is determined that the circuit is in normal operation, and

a means for providing a second signal to power the circuit from a charge storage circuit that provides power to the pin of the circuit when it is determined that the transient event is occurring.

Please add new Claims 21-31 as follows:

21. (New) An apparatus for protecting a circuit from a transient event, comprising:

a signal transfer circuit arranged to receive a supply signal and output a first signal during normal operation to a pin of the circuit and to a charge storage circuit, wherein the signal transfer circuit comprises a transistor circuit having a body connection coupled to the pin of the circuit,; and

the charge storage circuit arranged to receive the first signal during normal operation and output a second signal to provide power during the transient event to the pin of the circuit, the charge storage circuit storing enough charge to provide the second signal during the transient event.

22. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the charge storage circuit charges during normal operation, and discharges during the transient event.

23. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the signal transfer circuit is further configured to prevent the stored charge of the charge storage circuit from falling below a level required to power the pin of the circuit.

24. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the charge storage circuit comprises a capacitor circuit, the capacitor circuit storing enough charge to provide the second signal during the transient event.

25. (New) The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the charge storage circuit is arranged to receive the first signal during normal operation and charge to the first signal during normal operation.

26. (New) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein the transistor circuit, further comprises a first transistor and a second transistor arranged to prevent drain from the charge storage circuit.

27. (New) An apparatus for protecting a circuit from a transient event, comprising:

a signal transfer circuit arranged to receive a supply signal and output a first signal during normal operation;

a charge storage circuit arranged to receive a bias signal and the first signal, the charge storage circuit providing a second signal that provides power during the transient event; and

an inverting circuit arranged to receive the first signal, the second signal, and the bias signal, the inverting circuit coupled to a pin of the circuit, the inverting circuit arranged to hold the pin of the circuit high during a startup of the circuit, and low during the transient event and during normal operation, wherein the inverting circuit is a Schmidt trigger.

28. (New) The apparatus of Claim 27, wherein the charge storage circuit is a capacitor circuit.

29. (New) The apparatus of Claim 27, wherein the signal transfer circuit is a diode circuit.

30. (New) The apparatus of Claim 27, wherein the signal transfer circuit is a transistor circuit.

31. (New) The apparatus of Claim 30, wherein the transistor circuit, further comprises a first transistor and a second transistor arranged to prevent drain from the charge storage circuit.